

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the subject application as amended. In response to the Office Action mailed 7/09/03, Applicant is filing this amendment. Please amend claims 1-9 and 11. Accordingly, claims 1-9 and 11 are still pending.

In the Office Action mailed 7/09/03, the Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 8-13 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as being based on a disclosure which is not enabling. Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to include the second passgate circuit, second default circuit and the output logic circuit. Accordingly, Applicant submits that amended claim 1 is enabling and requests for the withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, rejection.

The Examiner also rejected claims 1-5, 7-9, 12-16, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and claims 6, 10, 11, 17 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), citing Bechade (US Patent 5,789,966) for all of the rejections.

Applicant submits that the amended claims distinguish over Bechade in that the Bechade fails to disclose multiplexing of multiple bits per bit input. Furthermore, as recited in claim 3, Bechade fails to disclose the use of a default circuit with multiple passgate circuits. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the elements of the amended claims distinguish over Bechade.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejections and allow pending claims 1-9 and 11, as amended.

In responding to the Office Action of 7/9/03, Applicant is submitting a petition for extension of time under a separate cover. An extension of one month is being requested. Since the first extension period (Nov. 9, 2003) was on a Sunday, this response is being mailed on Monday, November 10, 2003, still within the permitted first extension period.

If there are any fee shortages related to this response, please charge such fee shortages to Deposit Account No. 50-2126.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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